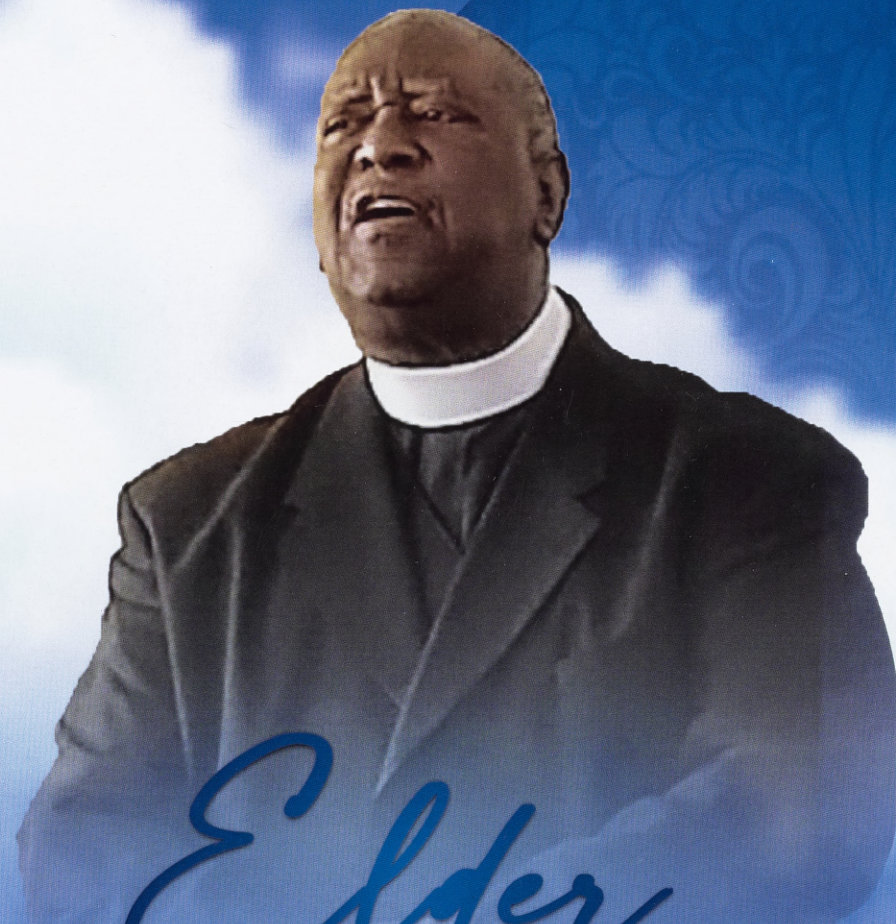


*Celebration of Life*



*Elder*  
**MAURICE V.  
LYONS SR.**

JUNE 22, 1952 - JULY 27, 2022

**CELEBRATION SERVICE**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2022 AT 10AM

**MCGLOTHEN TEMPLE COGIC**

1443 FRED JACKSON WAY, RICHMOND, CA 94801

WILLIE C. HAYNES III, PASTOR

OFFICIATING: PASTOR BILLY DIXON

AT THY WORD CHRISTIAN CENTER COGIC



# His Life Story

Maurice Vernaud Lyons, Sr. was born in St. Louis, Missouri, to Robert Lee Lyons and Clee Ethel Lyons on June 22, 1952. He was the fifth of their six children. The family moved to California when he was about sixteen months old. He received his formal education in Alameda, California at John Muir Elementary School, Long Fellow Middle School and Encinal High School where he graduated in 1970. Following his graduation from high school, he attended the College of Alameda, where he majored in accounting. He also attended Bay City Theological College.

At the age of 10 years old, Maurice's mother was called home to be with the Lord. It was at this time that his eldest sister, Ruth Ann Lyons, began to raise him.

Maurice grew up attending Good Samaritan Church of God in Christ (C.O.G.I.C.), under the pastorage of the late Bishop Isaac Finley. Since he was young, Maurice's high school grades were good enough to allow him to travel and sing with the original Edwin Hawkins Singers. Maurice also sang with his brother's group, the Robert Lyons Singers for many years. At the early age of sixteen, he served as a teacher in the Young People Willing Worker (YPWW) Department at church and was a member of local, district, and state choirs.

As a young adult, Maurice worked at the Boys Club in Alameda, CA, the International Harvester in San Leandro, CA, served as a Bail Bondsman for Elmer King Bailbonds, a Jet Engine Mechanic; and worked 38 years for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), where he retired as a Computer Analyst in December 2020.

Maurice met the love of his life Renea L. DeGrate (NaNa) at Good Samaritan C.O.G.I.C. On December 8, 1973, Maurice married Renea and to this union they had four sons - Keith L. Lyons, Maurice V. Lyons, Jr., Kasey D. Lyons and Brian C. Lyons. As time went by, they raised their oldest granddaughter, Deja M. Lyons.

On June 13, 1991, Maurice was ordained as an Elder in the Church of God in Christ by the late Bishop W. W. Hamilton of the California Northwest Jurisdiction. During his service in the C.O.G.I.C. church he was a YPWW teacher, YPWW State President, and YPWW Treasurer for the California Northwest Jurisdiction. He also served as a Sunday School teacher, finance department member and the Assistant Pastor for the Love Fellowship C.O.G.I.C.

As the years passed, Maurice and Renea joined Refreshing Fountain Church of God in Christ, under the leadership of his late brother, Pastor Eric Lyons. After the death of Pastor Eric Lyons, Maurice, Renea and family were under the leadership of Pastor Robert Lyons, Sr. Maurice and Renea along with their granddaughter Dèja, attended Love Fellowship C.O.G.I.C., under the leadership of his brother-in-law, Pastor Samuel Butler, where he served as the Assistance Pastor. Maurice, Renea, & Deja fellowshiped with At Thy Word Christian Center COGIC, under the leadership of Pastor Billy Dixon.

Time brought about a change and Maurice and Renea joined McGlothen Temple C.O.G.I.C., under the leadership of California Northwest Jurisdiction Administrative Assistant, Pastor John A. Jennings, Emeritus. After Pastor Jennings' retirement and the appointment of Pastor Willie C. Haynes, III, Elder Lyons continued to serve faithfully in ministry.

Maurice loved to spend time with his family. He enjoyed traveling with his wife, fishing, skiing, bowling, playing pool and swimming. His favorite football team was the San Francisco 49ers, his favorite basketball team was the Golden State Warriors, and his favorite baseball team was the San Francisco Giants.

Maurice was a dynamic preacher that stood flat-footed and just preached the Word of God. He would always say, "The answer is in the Book." He was a quiet man, but such a loving and caring man. On July 27, 2022, the Lord decided no more pain, no more suffering, and called him home. Maurice was preceded in death by his father Robert L. Lyons, Sr., mother Clee Ethel Lyons, siblings baby Genell Lyons, Eric R. Lyons, Sr., Dennis B. Lyons, and Sheryl D. (Lyons) Butler, and Eric William Spears.

Maurice leaves to cherish his memory, a devoted and loving wife, F. Renea Lyons of 48 1/2 years, (sons) Keith L. Lyons, Maurice V. Lyons, Jr., Kasey D. Lyons, Brian C. Lyons, (granddaughters) Dèja M. Lyons, Mariah N. Lyons; (grandsons) Da'Marea M. Lyons, Edric A. Lyons and Sahfiri E. Lyons; (brothers) Robert L. Lyons, Jr. and Kevin Lyons; (sister) Ruth Ann Lyons; (brother-in-law's) Christopher King and Samuel Butler; (sister-in-law's) Robbie DeGrate, Rosalind Stepp and Marva Lyons; (special nephew and niece) William Romero and Vernita Spears; (special nieces) Christina Hundon, Chantel Hundon-Holoman; (God-daughter) Donna Saffold-Williams; (God-son) Matthew Carlisle; and a host of uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, the McGlothen Temple Church family and friends that will forever miss him.



# Order of Service

SERVICE FACILITATOR  
Pastor Cornell Wheeler

MUSICAL PRELUDE.....

PROCESSIONAL.....

OPENING PRAYER.....Elder Stanley Campbell

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING.....PSALM 34:1-3.....Elder Samuel Butler

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING.....II TIMOTHY 4:7-8.....Elder William Carlis

PRAISE & WORSHIP.....Pastor Matthew Levy & Ensemble

EXPRESSIONS.....(3 Minutes Please).....Family & Friends

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT.....(3 Minutes Please).....McGlothen Temple C.O.G.I.C.  
Mother Brenda Shephard, Church Mother  
Words from Pastor John A. Jennings, Emeritus, Calif. Northwest Jurisdiction  
read by Elder Ronald Huey

MUSICAL SELECTION....."I Am The Amen".....The Lyons Family

EXPRESSIONS.....(3 Minutes Please).....Jurisdictional Representation  
Mother Barbara White, California North Central  
Assistant Supervisor, Mother Pauline Williams, California North Central  
Supervisor, Mother Farine Lee, California North Central  
Supervisor, Mother Roshonda McDonald, California Northwest

MUSICAL SELECTION....."In Chains".....The Lyons Family

SPECIAL EXPRESSIONS FAMILY.....Lyons Brothers - Keith, Maurice Jr., Kasey, and Brian  
Eldest Grandchildren - Dèja Lyons and Da'Marea Lyons  
Niece - Vernita Spears

CARDS, RESOLUTIONS & OBITUARY.....Missionary Donna Saffold-Williams  
(God-Daughter)

MUSICAL SELECTION.....The Lyons Brothers

EXPRESSIONS.....(3 Minutes Please).....Clergy

INTRODUCTION OF THE EULOGIST.....Pastor Samuel Bobo, Sr.

SERMONIC SELECTION.....Pastor Matthew Levy

EULOGY.....Pastor Billy Dixon  
At Thy Word Christian Center C.O.G.I.C.

VIEWING OF OUR BELOVED.....Fouché's Hudson Staff

RECESSIONAL.....

INTERMENT.....Pastor Billy Dixon



## *"To My Wife"*

I will love you literally until the end of time.

I loved you over fancy dinners or take out.

I loved you when we were making a big decision or a thousand little ones.

I loved you when things were tiring and all we wanted to do was collapse on the couch.

I loved you when we were so tired from the day, we barely found time for just you and me.

As we always said, "Love You Forever and Always"

Your Husband,  
Maurice V. Lyons, Sr.

## *"Farewell My Love"*

48 years ago, we made a vow to each other.

The hardest thing for me to do today, is to say, "Goodbye."

My life with you was full of joy, happiness, smiles and love.

You were my best friend, my encourager, my heart.

When things were hard, you would always say, "It's going to be alright."

Oh, how I will miss you.

My hand was never cold, because when we walked you always held my hand.

If there was ever a picture to draw of a great man, it would have you on it.

The years passed, but my precious husband you were always the same, loving, caring and  
you could always make me smile.

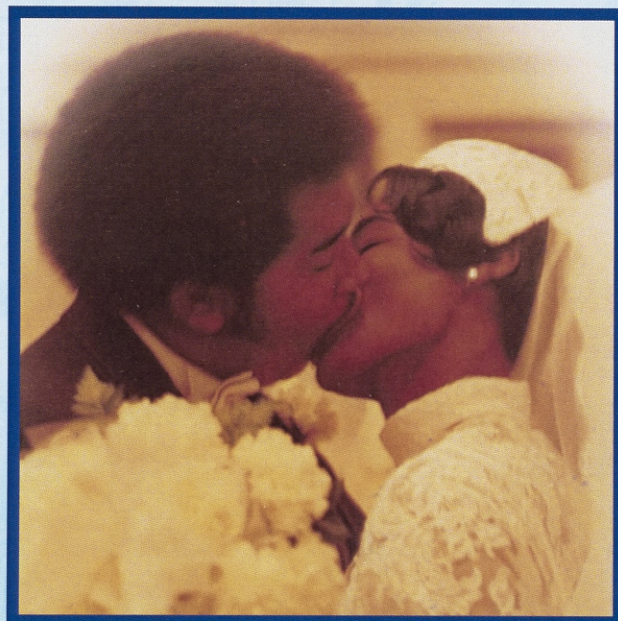
To some you were Pops, Dad, Papa, Brother, Uncle, Great Uncle, Cousin, Elder  
(Elder-Brother), and friend, and most certainly you were my loving husband.

As we always said to each other, "Love You Forever and Always"

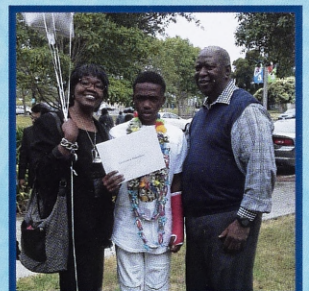
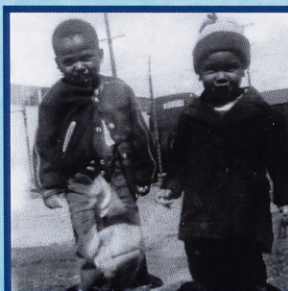
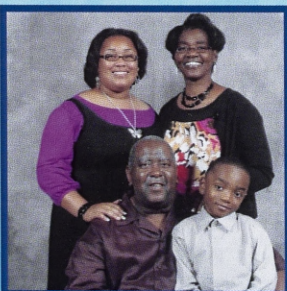
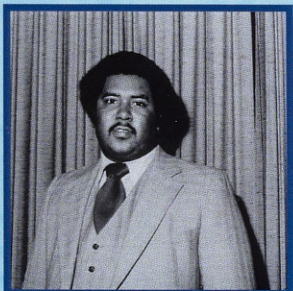
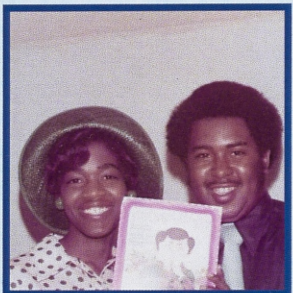
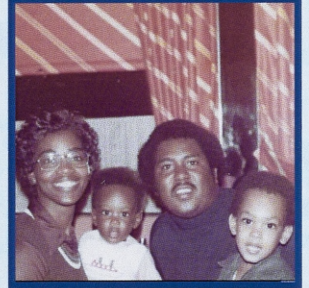
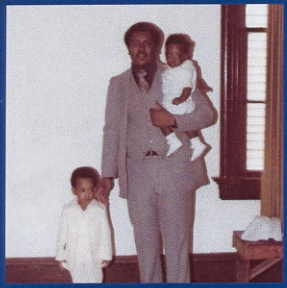
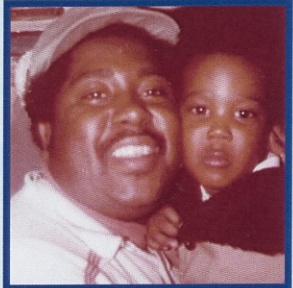
Your Loving Wife,  
F. Renea Lyons



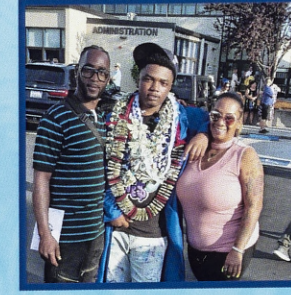
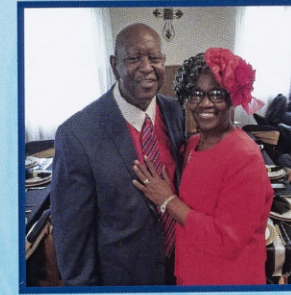
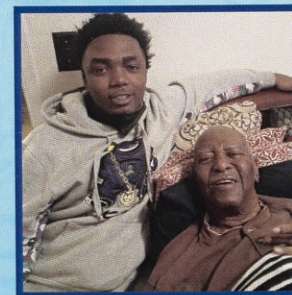
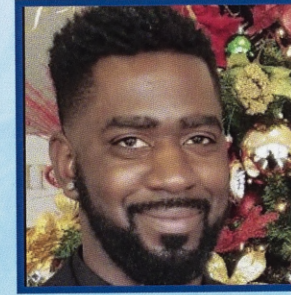
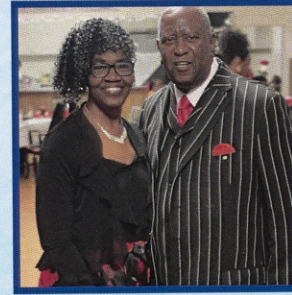
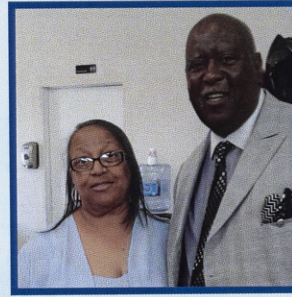
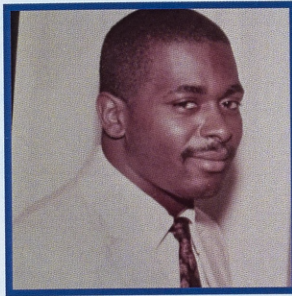
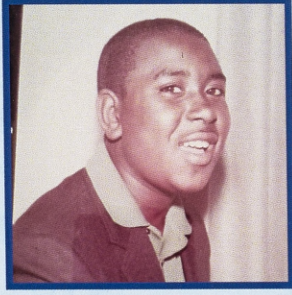
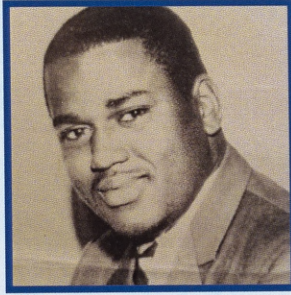
# *In Loving Memories*













## *Active Pallbearers*

ODELL MASON  
DAVE COLEMAN  
DERRICK LYONS

WILLIAM ROMEO SPEARS  
MICHAEL SHIVERS  
JEREMY DIXON

## *Honorary Pallbearers*

KEITH L. LYONS  
MAURICE V. LYONS, JR.  
KASEY D. LYONS  
BRIAN C. LYONS  
DA'MAREA M. LYONS  
ERIC LYONS JR.  
CHRISTOPHER KING

STANLEY CAMPBELL  
WILLIAM ROMERO SPEARS  
DARREN LYONS  
ZACHARY LYONS  
MATTHEW CARLISLE  
EDWIN SANTIAGO  
LEO STEVENS, III

## *Acknowledgements*

THE LYONS FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY AND LOVE. WE ASK YOU TO CONTINUE TO KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS EACH OF YOU.

SPECIAL THANKS TO DONNA SAFFOLD-WILLIAMS, MOTHER PAULINE WILLIAMS, VERNITA SPEARS, ALADRIANE DACUS, ALICIA JACKSON, MOTHER BARBARA WHITE, LETICIA DAVIS-CAMMACK, MOTHER EMMA CLARK, FOUCHÉ'S HUDSON FUNERAL HOME AND ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL PARK.

## *Service Entrusted to:*

FOUCHÉ'S HUDSON FUNERAL HOME  
3665 TELEGRAPH AVENUE  
OAKLAND CA 94609

## *Interment Service*

ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL PARK  
4100 HILLTOP DRIVE  
RICHMOND, CA 94803